

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 12 are pending in the present application.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 1 – 4, 6 – 8 and 10 - 12.

In section 1 of the Office Action, the disclosure is objected to because of informalities on pages 1, 8 and 9. Applicant amended pages 1, 8 and 9 as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully solicited.

In section 3 of the Office Action, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Applicant amended claim 5 to address this issue. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 5 are respectfully requested.

In section 4 of the Office Action, claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicant amended claim 9 to address this issue. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 are respectfully requested.

Claims 5 and 9 depend from claim 1. By virtue of the allowance of claim 1, claims 5 and 9 are also allowable.

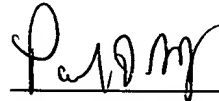
As mentioned above, Applicant amended claims 5 and 9 to address issues under 35 U.S.C. 112. None of the amendments narrows the meaning of any term of the claims, and as such, the doctrine of equivalents should be available for all of the elements of all of the claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims presented in this application patentably distinguish over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicant

respectfully requests favorable consideration and that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



Paul D. Greeley, Esq.
Reg. No. 31,019
Attorney for the Applicant
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.
One Landmark Square, 10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682
Tel: 203-327-4500
Fax: 203-327-6401